MINUTES

Public Hearing of the College Park City Council Tuesday, November 25, 2014 7:00 – 7:07 p.m.

14-CR-02

A Charter Resolution Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, To Amend Article I, "General Provisions", To Add §C1-2, "City Policy Of Non-Discrimination", To Adopt A General City Policy Against Discrimination With Respect To Employment, Housing And Public Accommodation

14-CR-03

A Charter Resolution Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, To Amend Article IX "Officers And Employees", §C9-1, "Discrimination", To Add Certain Non-Discrimination Provisions Concerning City Employment And To Make Clarifying Changes

PRESENT: Mayor Fellows; Councilmembers Kabir, Wojahn, Brennan, Day, Hew and

Mitchell.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Dennis and Stullich.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Bill Gardiner, Assistant

City Manager; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Steve Groh, Director of

Finance; Miriam Bader, Planner; Cole Holocker, Student Liaison.

Mayor Fellows opened the Public Hearing on 14-CR-02 and 14-CR-03 at 7:00 p.m. and invited comment.

Patrick Ronk, SGA President, 6801 Preinkert Drive, College Park, MD 20742: The SGA is in support of both Charter Amendments; these are important state-wide, nationally and for the City. He interned for the sponsor of the "Fairness for All Marylanders Act" and saw a lot of hysteria and fear-mongering about bathrooms and public accommodations. There is no basis for this. The University has opened many gender neutral bathrooms. This shows people that we care about them regardless of their gender identity.

Mary Cook, 4705 Kiernan Road: She feels the Charter should not be easily tampered with. This issue is already covered in our Charter and we should keep it general enough so that you don't open it for every group. For instance, immigrants and veterans aren't in there.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Fellows closed the public hearing at 7:27 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, CMC	Date Approved
City Clerk	